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Washington LABOR MARKET

JOB SERVICE

Washington State
Employment Security

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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
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Highlights

Slower Economy Begins To Bite

Washington's labor market finally reacted to a slowed economy beginning in October. Statewide unemployment mounted over the month rather than falling typically to the low for the year. The increment from 4.3 percent to 4.6 percent was not overwhelming but it marked the first hint that higher oil prices and a weakened national economy were beginning to bite. Normal seasonal runup in education and fairly typical retrenchment elsewhere occurred in the economy. However, the pullback of retailing in October was the heaviest for the month in five years and signalled something more than a change of seasons.

Consumer spending across the country is being taxed by the rise in oil prices. The 35 percent runup in gasoline costs at the pump since August has cut heavily into overall purchasing power. Sales of big-ticket items, such as

housing and autos, are now languishing at levels not seen since the 1981-82 recession. Uncertainties arising out of the Middle East crisis have cast a pall on consumer confidence generally. And shopkeepers are leery that the Christmas rush, which traditionally accounts for upwards to half of annual sales, will do well to simply match a year ago. With two-thirds of GNP arising out of personal consumption expenditures, positioning of the consumer casts a long shadow.

The most recent issue of *Business Week*, devoted to the 1991 industry outlook, puts some of this in perspective. Included in the retailing outlook is the comment: *"After a decade of shopping more, consumers entered the 1990s all spent out. As 1990 wore on ... (growth) in disposable income slowed dramatically. 'Now,' says David Kelly of DRI/McGraw Hill, 'consumers don't have a ... lot of room to increase spending.' A drop in housing values, (moreover), is also making many people feel poorer than a year ago. And as shoppers pull back, retailers will feel more intensely the effects of overexpansion in the 1980s...."*

Taxable retail sales in Washington State continue to mount. But the rate of increase has slowed on a seasonally adjusted basis beginning in the second quarter. It's anyone's guess what the fourth quarter will look like when the figures are finally tallied. But the Office of the Forecast Council projects a marked deceleration in taxable retail sales growth to 4.4 percent for the fiscal year beginning in July after an exuberant 14 percent over the previous 12 months.

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Despite the atypical October movement, statewide unemployment held significantly below the national and prior-year averages. Washington's jobless rate dipped below the national average beginning in June – the first time since briefly in 1966 at the height of the "Boeing Boom." The period marks the longest protracted time in postwar history that the reported levels have remained positive vis-a-vis the nation as a whole. Continued growth of the economy at a time of rolling recession elsewhere is the cause. Traditionally, even in the

best of times, seasonal factors alone account for a one to two percentage point margin on average between the state and national totals.

How much longer can the spread be maintained? Certainly, normal wintertime pullback in the resource-based industries over the next several months will drive overall joblessness higher. The swing from peak to trough averages on the order of two percentage points. Couple that with the dual impact of both supply and demand pulling down the forest products industry—a major player in the Washington economy. Employment loss in the lumber and wood products sector as a result of timber harvest restrictions is expected to measure anywhere between 6,900 and 7,800 workers out of an industry total of roughly 41,000. And, finally, the engine of growth provided by 54,000 job additions in aerospace from 1984 to 1989 has ended. In all likelihood, the state from here on out will track closer to that of the nation as a whole.

Resident Civilian Labor Force

Employment and Unemployment in Washington State

	Oct 1990 *Preliminary*	Sep 1990 *Revised*	Oct 1989
Resident Civilian Labor Force	2,464,000	2,455,400	2,482,600
Employment	2,350,600	2,350,700	2,345,100
Unemployment	113,400	104,700	137,500
Unemployment Rate	4.6%	4.3%	5.5%
National Unemployment Rate	5.4%	5.5%	5.0%

Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.
Sources: Employment Security Department;
U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Total nonfarm employment in the state heightened over the month by a modest 5,300 workers. More than compensating gain took place in public and private education as non-teaching staff at colleges and universities were rehired for the fall term. Much of the balance of the economy showed fairly normal retrenchment. Construction dropped by 2,100 as wetter weather affected activity, particularly on state highways and public works projects. An end to the summer tourist season and

timing on various state fairs pulled 1,800 out of amusement and recreation. Wholesale and retail trade cut back by 4,800.

State and local education provided the only sizable offset. Rehiring of maintenance workers, cafeteria staff, and office personnel at area colleges and universities totalled 20,200 in October following similar restaffing for K-12 in September. This brought public education employment in the state to 171,600 going into the 1990-91 academic year. The increase of 2.3 percent over a year before was less than registered for the total economy and less than the corresponding growth in statewide population.

Manufacturing Downsizes More Than Seasonally

Manufacturing payrolls, meanwhile, scaled back by 3,200. The average over the past five years was roughly 1,000. Better than half the loss for October centered in food processing (-1,500) where return to more normal seasonal patterns this year converged with typical downsizing over the month off the seasonal high in September. Year ago harvests had been extended by very atypical weather conditions. Other significant industrial losses for the month were recorded in lumber and wood products (-800), paper and allied products (-400), and stone, clay, and glass (-300).

Meanwhile, aerospace took off again after holding on the tarmac since May. The industry added 200 workers over the month – the first increase since the beginning of the year. Total payrolls had been pared back by 3,000 through the first half en route to an expected 6,000 reduction for the year as a whole. Most of the pullback was accomplished through attrition and primarily reflected realignment of employment to output simply to take account of productivity gains. Sales continue strong. Output has risen from a low of 20 to 34 planes a month, heading toward a targeted 38 a month by mid-1991.

Public Payrolls Take Up The Slack

Construction and most of the services sectors moved lower with average daytime temperatures. Employment in heavy construction dropped in October by 1,100, or 6

percent. General building scaled back by 700. In both cases, the pattern looked very much like recent history (with the exception of the past couple years when work-in-place mounted to all-time highs). Housing has pulled back systematically since early last spring. But any comparisons are relative against a very high base. And construction employment in the latest month still totalled 10,300, or nearly 9 percent, above a year before.

An end to the tourist season pulled back activity throughout many portions of services and trade. Those sectors most directly affected included hotels (-600), eating and drinking establishments (-3,700), and amusements and recreation (-1,900). On the plus side, a fall buildup of 700 and 500, respectively, took place in business and health services. However, the overwhelming boost not only for services but the economy in general was a net gain of 22,000 in public and private education.

Over-the-Year Continues To Look Good

Washington's economy proceeds to build off the base established coming into the year. The year-to-year margin has progressively narrowed since the first quarter. But the October-to-October spread of 77,800, or 3.7 percent, remains respectable. Only two states in the nation (Nevada and Utah) posted larger relative gains than Washington over the past 12 months. The Pacific Northwest, and Washington in particular, stand out at a time of growing recession nationally in which 10 states registered lower than prior-year employment totals for October.

Manufacturing has pulled the economy in tandem. Industrial payrolls were off 5,400 over the year in October. Seasonal patterns for the most part have been unaffected this year. However, the drag from aerospace (-2,400) and lumber and wood products (-1,300) proved too much. Losses have also crept up in primary metals (-500), textiles and apparel (-400), and other transportation equipment manufacturing (-1,800). Some offset comes from gains in machinery (+800), furniture (+400), and chemicals (+700). The latter is primarily due to additional environmental restoration work at Hanford.

Services has maintained the pace. Employment buildup in services (+27,400) and trade (+23,500) has accounted for fully two-thirds of the state's total job growth over the past 12 months. And the proportion is mounting. Retailing has added 17,800 workers over the year, with more than half of that increase centered in area eating and drinking establishments (+9,800). General merchandise (-1,500) and specialty apparel shops (-700) are down. Another 9,800 has come in health care – mostly clinics and specialized health services aside from hospitals. Business services are up 5,800; government, 14,300; construction, 10,300.

AREA TRENDS

Metropolitan Areas Set The Pace

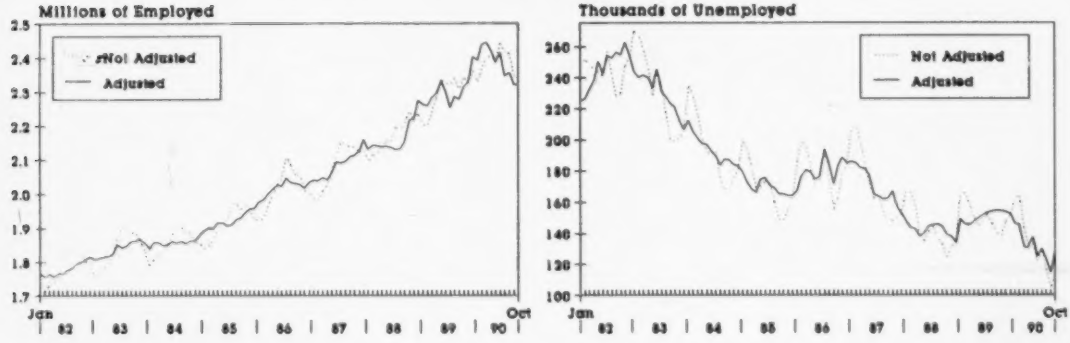
Joblessness in Washington's metropolitan areas inched higher by three-tenths of a percentage point in October to 4.3 percent of the civilian workforce. The pattern was out of line with normal seasonal expectations, especially in the Seattle and Tacoma PMSAs. An easing in retailing and construction was most pronounced in those locations. Both Vancouver and Olympia mounted over the month by better than half a percentage point to 5.2 percent and 5.0 percent unemployed, respectively. Passing of the farm peak, moreover, lowered activity in Yakima and the Tri-Cities. The Franklin County portion of the Tri-Cities shifted from a low of 7.9 percent to 8.2 percent, while Yakima jumped from 5.7 percent to 7.2 percent. All registered sizably below a year ago.

Balance Of State Shifts With The Seasons

Typical seasonal pattern in October impacted the rest of the state. The agricultural and timber-dependent economies geared down with a shift of seasons. Overall unemployment in eastern Washington heightened from 5.2 percent to 5.9 percent over the month – about on par with the normal monthly increment. Some of the larger swings took place in Okanogan (from 6.7 percent to 7.3 percent), Grant (from 5.5 percent to 6.7 percent), and Walla Walla counties (from 4.0 percent to 5.0 percent). The wood products-dependent areas of western

Washington, meanwhile, showed a jobless hike from 6.2 percent to 7.2 percent in October. Despite slackening in lumber and wood products operations over the past 12 months, the year earlier figure registered slightly higher at 8.0 percent.

Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment
January 1982 - October 1990



Source: Employment Security Department

INDUSTRY NOTES

Same Players ... New Name

National Semiconductor sold its Puyallup high-tech manufacturing plant to Matsushita Electric for $86 million. The Japanese-based Matsushita makes Panasonic and Quasar electronic products with U.S. subsidies headquartered in Secaucus, New Jersey. Transfer will ensure retention of 550 jobs currently at the plant, but not rehiring of 300 laid off earlier this year. Production will be shifted from semiconductor chips to DRAMSs and MOS logic components.

In another change of ownership, Seattle Steel has been acquired by Birmingham Steel for $54 million. Employment averaged roughly 600. Current holdings of the local subsidiary, Salmon Bay Steel, include a melt shop in Kent and a steel rolling mill in Seattle with 275

workers. Plans call for closing the Kent operation and consolidating that function with the West Seattle plant, thereby eliminating roughly 200 jobs. Birmingham is known in the industry as a low-cost steel producer with a strong hold on the bottom line.

Weyerhaeuser Moves On The Spotted Owl

The Weyerhaeuser Company, largest private owner of softwood timberland in the world, has announced it will no longer export raw logs from the State of Oregon. The decision, effective February 20, will provide an additional 50 million board feet of timber to area mills at a time when millions of acres of federal land are to be placed off limits to protect habitat of the northern spotted owl. Changes to federal law currently prohibit log exports from both federal and state lands with the exception of a 25 percent allocation from Washington state lands. Export restrictions are expected to retain more than 600 million board feet of timber a year presently shipped overseas for processing.

Getting The Lead Out

Equinox Resources Ltd. will become the first lead-zinc producer in Washington State in 13 years. The Canadian-based firm has recently purchased the Van Stone mine and facilities in Stevens County for a fraction of the total investment of recent owners. Mining at the site is expected to start in February, reaching full production of 1,100 tons of ore a day by mid-May. Known reserves should allow operations through 1997. Employment will total 65 workers in an area hard hit by the downturn in timber.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

Squeeze Me And I Don't Shop

Consumer spending hit a plateau in October. Clearly, the consumer, which had been the driving force behind eight years of economic expansion, has run out of steam. Personal consumption expenditures were unchanged from September at a seasonally adjusted rate of $3.73 trillion. When adjusted for inflation, spending actually

dropped by 0.7 percent after a 0.2 percent increase a month before. Meanwhile, the wherewithal to continue spending fell. Personal income growth measured only 0.1 percent in October; disposable income dropped 0.5 percent following declines of 0.4 percent in each of the previous two months.

This Old House Is Fine

As a further sign of consumer sentiment, homebuilding plunged 6 percent in October to the lowest level since the 1981-82 recession. Starts of new homes and apartments fell to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.04 million units – the lowest since 902,000 in June 1982. The nine-month slide now measures the longest since the Commerce Department began keeping records in 1959. Construction of single-family homes dropped 1 percent to 854,000 units; multi-family units plummeted 23 percent to 187,000 units after a 17 percent drop in September.

At the same time, existing home sales registered the lowest in six years. The National Association of Realtors reported resales fell 4.7 percent in October to a seasonally adjusted 3.02 million units in October – the lightest since February 1985. Mortgage rates were stable over the month, ranging between 10.08 and 10.17 percent for a 30-year conventional fixed rate contract. Sales in the West were off an even heavier 5.8 percent to 490,000 units, but the median selling price inched higher by 4.4 percent to $140,600.

Call It Like It Is

There's some comfort in the fact that the government's economic forecasting gauge is now signaling a recession that everyone feels has already arrived. The Commerce Department's index of leading indicators plunged 1.2 percent in October, thereby extending to four months a downturn which began this summer. The rule of thumb is three straight declines to signal a turning point six to nine months hence. This time around, however, even the Federal Reserve Chief, Alan Greenspan, is using the "R" word to describe the present state of the economy. The latest statistics should remove all doubt.

Consumer Price Index

(All items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984 = 100)

	Indexes			% Change From	
U.S. City Average	Oct 90	Sep 90	Oct 89	Sep 90	Oct 89
	133.5	132.7	125.6	0.6%	6.3%
Seattle†	Jan-Jun 1990	Jan-Jun 1989		Jan-Jun 1989	
	124.2	116.7		6.4%	

†The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties.
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Prepared by Dennis Fusco, Chief Economist

Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work[1]

(In Thousands) (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Industry	Oct 1990 (Prel)	Sep 1990 (Rev)	Oct 1989 (Rev)	Sep 1989 (Rev)	Numeric Change: Sep 1990 to Oct 1990	Numeric Change: Oct 1989 to Oct 1990
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	2,177.9	2,172.6	2,100.1	2,090.0	5.3	77.8
MANUFACTURING	366.3	369.5	371.7	372.8	-3.2	-5.4
Durable Goods	257.5	258.7	262.7	263.1	-1.2	-5.2
Lumber & Wood Products	40.1[2]	40.9[2]	41.4	42.0	-0.8	-1.3
Furniture & Fixtures	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.4
Stone, Clay & Glass	7.5	7.8	7.6	7.8	-0.3	-0.1
Primary Metals	12.7	12.8	13.2	13.5	-0.1	-0.5
Aluminum	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.2	-0.1	-0.2
Fabricated Metals	12.5	12.5	12.3	12.4	0.0	0.2
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	19.7	19.7	19.2	19.2	0.0	0.5
Electronic & Other Elect. Equipment	12.3	12.1	12.0	11.8	0.2	0.3
Transportation Equipment	127.8	127.9	132.0	131.3	-0.1	-4.2
Aircraft and Parts	113.3	113.1	115.7[3]	115.4	0.2	-2.4
Instruments & Related	14.3	14.4	14.9	15.0	-0.1	-0.6
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	0.0	0.1
Nondurable Goods	108.8	110.8	109.0	109.7	-2.0	-0.2
Food & Kindred Products	39.1	40.6	39.7	40.0	-1.5	-0.6
Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	15.0	16.5	16.6	16.8	-1.5	-1.6
Textiles, Apparel & Leather	7.7	7.8	8.1	8.1	-0.1	-0.4
Paper & Allied Products	18.2	18.6	18.3	18.7	-0.4	-0.1
Printing & Publishing	22.3	22.2	22.2	22.2	0.1	0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	13.2	13.2	12.5	12.4	0.0	0.7
Petroleum, Coal, Plastics	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.3	-0.1	0.1
MINING & QUARRYING	4.1	4.1	3.7	3.7	0.0	0.4
CONSTRUCTION	126.1	128.2	115.8	116.8	-2.1	10.3
TRANSPORTATION, COMM., & UTIL	114.6	115.4	111.1	111.2	-0.8	3.5
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	534.7	539.5	511.2	512.4	-4.8	23.5
Wholesale Trade	134.7[2]	136.0[2]	129.0	129.6	-1.3	5.7
Retail Trade	400.0	403.5	382.2	382.8	-3.5	17.8
General Merchandise	38.4	38.6	39.9	39.1	-0.2	-1.5
Food Stores	68.7	68.4	63.9[2]	63.6[2]	0.3	4.8
Eating & Drinking	144.5	148.2	135.1	137.9	-3.7	9.4
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	117.8	118.2	113.9	114.3	-0.4	3.9
Finance	53.2	53.4	51.7	51.8	-0.2	1.5
SERVICES	512.5	512.3	485.1	483.7	0.2	27.4
Hotels & Lodging	27.3	27.9	26.2	26.2	-0.6	1.1
Business Services	85.7	85.0	79.9	79.0	0.7	5.8
Health Services	152.5	152.0	142.7	142.3	0.5	9.8
Hospitals	50.2	50.0	47.2[2]	47.1[2]	0.2	3.0
GOVERNMENT	401.8	385.4	387.5	374.9	16.4	14.3
Federal	73.9	74.5	72.5	73.1	-0.6	1.4
State	120.4	111.1	114.6	106.5	9.3	5.8
State Education	63.0	52.6	61.3	51.6	10.4	1.7
Local	207.5	199.8	200.4	195.3	7.7	7.1
Local Education	108.6	98.8[2]	106.4	98.1	9.8	2.2
LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.5	0.3

[1]Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

[2]Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management dispute.

[3]Labor dispute in aircraft affecting 42,900 workers from October 4 to November 22 not reflected as workers were on the job a portion of the pay period which included the 12th of the month.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas

Date: 12/5/90
Benchmark: 1989

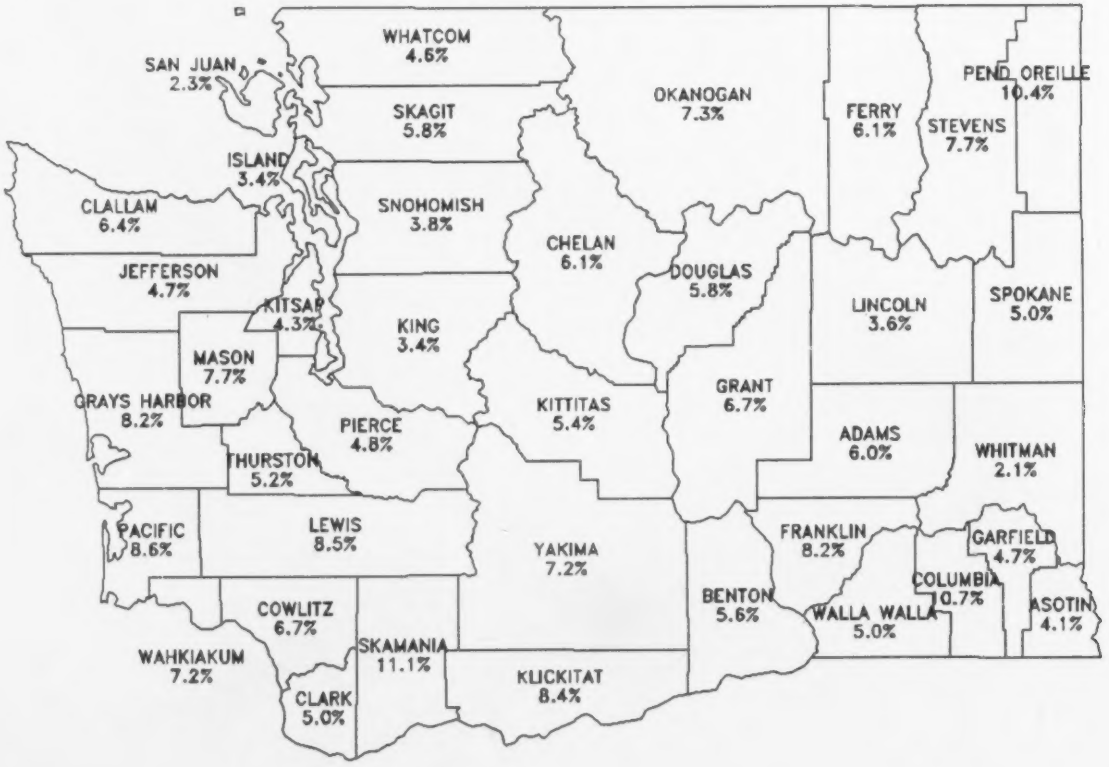
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	October 1990 Preliminary†				September 1990 Revised†				October 1989 Revised†			
	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate
Washington State Total	2,464,000	2,350,600	113,400	4.6	2,455,400	2,350,700	104,700	4.3	2,482,600	2,345,100	137,500	5.5
Bellingham MSA	67,300	64,200	3,100	4.6	65,500	62,700	2,800	4.3	66,400	62,500	3,900	5.9
Bremerton MSA	79,800	76,400	3,400	4.3	79,500	76,200	3,300	4.2	81,000	76,700	4,300	5.3
Olympia MSA	82,000	77,700	4,300	5.2	81,400	77,800	3,600	4.4	79,800	75,000	4,800	6.0
Seattle PMSA	1,106,700	1,067,900	38,800	3.5	1,097,300	1,059,600	37,700	3.4	1,114,400	1,066,600	47,800	4.3
King County‡	873,700	843,700	30,000	3.4	866,300	837,200	29,100	3.4	880,000	842,700	37,300	4.2
Snohomish County‡	233,000	224,200	8,800	3.8	231,000	222,400	8,600	3.7	234,400	223,900	10,500	4.5
Spokane MSA	168,400	160,000	8,400	5.0	166,300	158,200	8,100	4.9	172,700	161,900	10,800	6.3
Tacoma PMSA	251,300	239,300	12,000	4.8	250,800	239,100	11,700	4.7	254,200	239,000	15,200	6.0
Tri-Cities MSA	71,500	67,100	4,400	6.2	73,900	69,800	4,100	5.5	71,200	65,700	5,500	7.7
Benton County‡	55,600	52,500	3,100	5.6	57,400	54,600	2,800	4.9	55,600	51,400	4,200	7.6
Franklin County‡	15,900	14,600	1,300	8.2	16,500	15,200	1,300	7.9	15,600	14,300	1,300	8.3
Vancouver PMSA	126,000	119,700	6,300	5.0	124,400	119,100	5,300	4.3	126,200	119,500	6,700	5.3
Yakima MSA	101,200	93,900	7,300	7.2	103,000	97,100	5,900	5.7	103,400	93,900	9,500	9.2
Adams	7,140	6,710	430	6.0	7,510	7,100	410	5.5	7,100	6,620	480	6.8
Asotin	9,590	9,200	390	4.1	9,250	8,960	290	3.1	9,330	8,880	450	4.8
Clallam	24,050	22,520	1,530	6.4	24,380	22,960	1,420	5.8	24,760	22,910	1,850	7.5
Columbia	1,490	1,330	160	10.7	1,500	1,360	140	9.3	1,550	1,360	190	12.3
Cowlitz	38,140	35,590	2,550	6.7	38,380	35,980	2,400	6.3	38,280	35,170	3,110	8.1
Ferry	3,120	2,930	190	6.1	3,180	2,970	210	6.6	3,130	2,830	300	9.6
Garfield	1,060	1,010	50	4.7	1,030	1,000	30	2.9	1,030	1,000	30	2.9
Grant	26,440	24,680	1,760	6.7	28,250	26,710	1,540	5.5	27,510	25,360	2,150	7.8
Grays Harbor	27,040	24,820	2,220	8.2	26,730	24,740	1,990	7.4	27,500	24,830	2,670	9.7
Island	21,790	21,060	730	3.4	21,810	21,120	690	3.2	21,630	20,500	1,130	5.2
Jefferson	8,870	8,450	420	4.7	9,230	8,870	360	3.9	8,640	8,150	490	5.7
Kittitas	12,510	11,840	670	5.4	12,520	11,880	640	5.1	12,190	11,400	790	6.5
Klickitat	8,060	7,380	680	8.4	8,340	7,690	650	7.8	8,140	7,430	710	8.7
Lewis	25,380	23,220	2,160	8.5	24,360	22,950	1,410	5.8	25,810	23,800	2,010	7.8
Lincoln	4,170	4,020	150	3.6	4,270	4,100	170	4.0	4,200	4,030	170	4.0
Mason	13,970	12,890	1,080	7.7	13,760	13,000	760	5.5	13,740	12,780	960	7.0
Okanogan	17,590	16,310	1,280	7.3	18,520	17,280	1,240	6.7	20,360	18,830	1,530	7.5
Pacific	7,770	7,100	670	8.6	7,410	6,900	510	6.9	7,530	6,860	670	8.9
Pend Oreille	3,090	2,770	320	10.4	3,140	2,810	330	10.5	3,440	3,010	430	12.5
San Juan	5,760	5,630	130	2.3	6,590	6,480	110	1.7	5,390	5,190	200	3.7
Skagit	39,320	37,020	2,300	5.8	40,260	38,190	2,070	5.1	37,680	34,890	2,790	7.4
Skamania	2,070	1,840	230	11.1	2,020	1,810	210	10.4	2,160	1,880	280	13.0
Stevens	11,750	10,850	900	7.7	11,870	11,040	830	7.0	11,930	11,000	930	7.8
Wahkiakum	1,250	1,160	90	7.2	1,250	1,150	100	8.0	1,310	1,220	90	6.9
Walla Walla	24,400	23,170	1,230	5.0	24,420	23,440	980	4.0	24,320	23,070	1,250	5.1
Wenatchee Labor Area	44,050	41,410	2,640	6.0	43,490	41,110	2,380	5.5	44,370	41,430	2,940	6.6
Chelan County‡	29,220	27,450	1,770	6.1	28,830	27,250	1,580	5.5	29,520	27,470	2,050	6.9
Douglas County‡	14,820	13,960	860	5.8	14,660	13,860	800	5.5	14,860	13,970	890	6.0
Whitman	19,810	19,400	410	2.1	19,880	19,530	350	1.8	20,310	19,950	360	1.8

†Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. ‡Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology. Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

OCTOBER 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

STATE OF WASHINGTON = 4.6%



Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, Washington State

	Preliminary October Production Workers & Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Oct 90	Sep 90	Oct 89	Oct 90	Sep 90	Oct 89	Oct 90	Sep 90	Oct 89
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES[1]	216,477	$522.05	$519.54	$408.42	40.5	40.4	34.7	$12.89	$12.86	$11.77
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber and Wood Products	33,286	$462.92	$458.05	$474.46	40.5	39.9	42.4	$11.43	$11.48	$11.19
Primary Metal Industries	10,173	$562.88	$562.22	$527.07	42.1	42.4	41.6	$13.37	$13.26	$12.67
Fabricated Metal Products	9,971	$489.95	$519.70	$472.28	41.0	43.2	40.4	$11.95	$12.03	$11.69
Machinery	20,192	$424.12	$423.62	$403.97	39.6	38.9	39.8	$10.71	$10.89	$10.15
Food and Kindred Products	28,507	$368.16	$384.69	$368.52	39.0	39.7	40.1	$9.44	$9.69	$9.19
Chemical and Allied Products	4,667	$693.16	$708.99	$634.26	43.0	43.9	41.7	$16.12	$16.15	$15.21
Transportation Equipment	57,221	$672.15	$657.60	$293.32	42.3	42.1	20.7	$15.89	$15.62	$14.17
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction	96,348	$658.85	$672.61	$629.37	37.8	38.7	37.8	$17.43	$17.38	$16.65
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Includes eating and drinking establishments)	474,404	$284.90	$299.70	$276.48	30.9	32.4	31.1	$9.22	$9.25	$8.89

[1]Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

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